

USGS-NPS Vegetation Mapping Program
Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument

Pinus ponderosa / *Andropogon hallii* Woodland

COMMON NAME	Ponderosa Pine / Sand Bluestem Woodland
PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS	Woodland (II.)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS	Evergreen woodland (II.A.)
PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP	Temperate or subpolar needle-leaved evergreen woodland (II.A.4.)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBGROUP	Natural/Semi-natural (II.A.4.N.)
FORMATION	Rounded-crowned temperate or subpolar needle-leaved evergreen woodland (II.A.4.N.a.)
ALLIANCE	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i> Woodland Alliance

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL Low Confidence. This association has been newly described at Sunset Crater Volcano NM. No global descriptions or conservation ranks have currently been assigned.

USFS WETLAND SYSTEM Upland

RANGE

Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument

Ponderosa Pine / Sand Bluestem Woodland occurs on cinder cones in Sunset Crater Volcano NM. It is found on the west side of Sunset Crater Volcano NM and on a cinder cone southeast of Sunset Crater Volcano NM. This association also occurs in the park environs in patches within the OHV area.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument

Only one relevé was sampled at an elevation of 2,200m with a slope of 42% and on cinder gravel.

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

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<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
Tree canopy	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>
Herbaceous	<i>Andropogon hallii</i>

ASSOCIATED SPECIES

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Artemisia campestris, *Ericameria nauseosa*, *Oenothera* sp.

VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

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The total vegetation cover for the one relevé sampled was 25% with 15% absolute cover in the tree layer, 5% in the shrub layer, and 15% in the herbaceous layer. Nine species were recorded.

The tree layer was characterized by *Pinus ponderosa* with DBH ranging from 13-63cm (average 30cm). The tree heights were between 3-10m. The most abundant grass was *Andropogon hallii* (12% absolute cover). The shrub cover was sparse.

CONSERVATION RANK G?

DATABASE CODE Cegl005808

MAP CLASSES

Ponderosa Pine / Sand Bluestem Woodland is represented by map class Ponderosa Pine / Sand Bluestem Woodland (map code 20).

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Ponderosa Pine / Sand Bluestem Woodland is mapped on Sunset Crater and in the southeastern corner of the project boundary in USDA-FS lands. The total area mapped in Sunset Crater Volcano NM is 15 hectares within 4 polygons and in the park environs 5 hectares within 3 map polygons.